



## NEWS RELEASE

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## High School Wrestling Coach Sentenced for Sexual Abuse

A man who coached wrestling teams at a high school and a Boys and Girls Club was sentenced today to 71 years in state prison for the sexual assaults of nine young athletes, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Terry Terrell Gillard, 58, of Sylmar was found guilty on May 7 of 28 felony counts of procuring a child to engage in a lewd act as well as three counts each of lewd act upon a child, lewd act upon a child age 14 or 15 and oral copulation of a person under 18.

Deputy District Attorney Cathy Lee said the jury in case PA088987 also found Gillard guilty of 10 misdemeanor counts of child molestation for a total of 47 counts.

According to evidence presented at the seven-week-long trial, the conduct occurred between 1991 and 2017 and involved minors the defendant met through the wrestling teams. Gillard was a coach at John H. Francis Polytechnic High School in Sun Valley and the Boys and Girls Club of San Fernando.

The victims included seven boys and two girls between the ages of 11 and 17, the prosecutor said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Juvenile Division.

### [About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.